



Cal OES
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
OF EMERGENCY SERVICES



2014 Drought Response Report

State Operations Center

Situation Brief – February 17, 2014



Situational Summary:

The lack of winter rain and snowfall has resulted in extremely dry conditions in many parts of the State. Reservoir levels are down significantly from where they should be on average for this time of year. If conditions continue without substantial rainfall, severe impacts to municipal water supplies, agriculture (plants and livestock) and firefighting capabilities are likely in store for the State for several months. Negative economic impacts will also result. The Governor has established a Drought Task Force to prioritize State actions needed to address these conditions. Furthermore, on January 17, 2014, Governor Edmund G. Brown has proclaimed a State of Emergency and directed state officials to take all necessary actions to prepare for these drought conditions. The State Operations Center (SOC) is activated to implement objectives in support of the Governor's priorities.

Significant Events Summary

Current Missions:

1. 2014-Coastal-2015 Mendocino County request Department of Water Resources (DWR) water specialist to assist with developing issues with water system delivery. DWR Drinking Water Program specialist is on scene.
2. 2014-Coastal-2098 Mendocino County, Redwood Valley Water District is in need of two pumps and 6" water pipe. Pumps will be used to inter tie between Redwood Valley Water District and Capella Water to provide water supplies to the 4,000 people.

Significant Events Summary (continued)

CDPH Drinking Water At-Risk Systems:

System Name	County	District/LPA	Location
Camp Condor	Kern	Tehachapi	Taft, CA
Lake of the Woods MWC	Kern	Tehachapi	Frazier Park, CA
West Goshen MWC	Tulare	LPA	Goshen, CA
Whispering Pines Apts	Mariposa	Merced	Mid-Pines, CA
City of Willits	Mendocino	Mendocino	Willits, CA
Redwood Valley CWD	Mendocino	Mendocino	Redwood Valley, CA
Brooktrail Township CSD	Mendocino	Mendocino	Willits, CA
Washington Ridge Conservation Camp	Nevada	Valley	Nevada City, CA
Ophir Gardens	Placer	LPA	Auburn, CA
River Highlands CSD	Yuba	LPA	Gold Village Subdivision Smartsville, CA

Notes:

LPA = Local Primary Agency Usually a County Environments Health Department

CWS = Community Water System

CWD = County Water System

CSD = Community Service District

MWC = Mutual Water Company

Significant Events Summary (continued)

County Updates:

Tuolumne County:

- Tuolumne Utilities District (TUD) is in Phase III, mandatory water conservation, customers must reduce water usage by 50% including tribal structures in TUD service area. TUD is expecting a shortfall of 4000-7000 acre-feet.
- The County's only hospital, Sonora Regional Medical Center, may run out of water in 120-150 days. There is a kidney dialysis center that may be impacted.
- Also, the main Cal Fire air attack base may not have water if they cannot get water from the New Melons Reservoir.
- The TUD provides water to 90% of the county residents, with up to 44,000 residents. Tuolumne County has 136 additional Utility Districts.
- Tuolumne County has requested state assistance to assess the health of their ground water system. Cal OES will facilitate a conference call involving the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), the Department of Water Resources (DWR), CDPH, and the Inland Regional Emergency Operations Center (REOC) to discuss possible assistance for the County.

Significant Events Summary (continued)

County Updates:

Sutter County:

- Ranchers hay stocks are dwindling rapidly because of the need to supplement their dry land pastures and the 2014 hay production will be severely limited throughout the State due to agricultural water deliveries that will be bitterly limited or nonexistent. High demand for limited hay supplies is already pushing prices higher, with estimates of prices doubling. Imported hay will become a fallback resource. Water for livestock is also a concern. Water wells will definitely fail by summer, adding costs to re-drill and replace pumps. Also, costs to transport potable water to ranches will be costly.

Weather Synopsis by Region

February 17, 2014

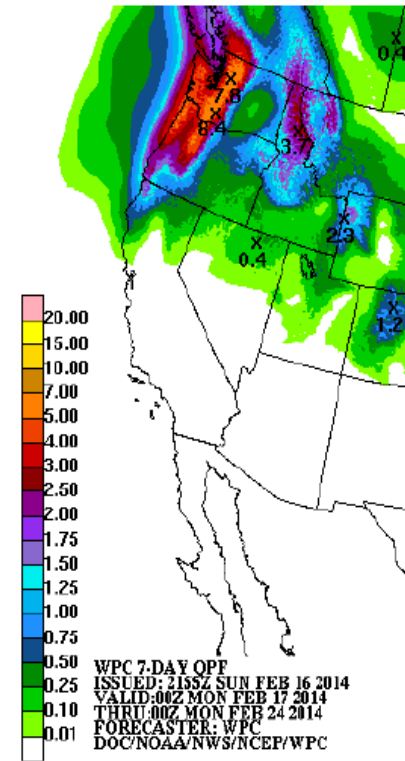
Northern & Central California

Eureka Weather:

There will be a brief break in the weather into tonight with a return to more active weather starting Monday as the first in a series of disturbances approaches northwest California. Temperatures will cool through midweek.

San Francisco Weather:

The dry air mass will prevent widespread fog causing the quickly cooling temperatures which will lead to patchy fog in a few of the more prone San Francisco locations. Weather will remain steady until approximately Wednesday when a weak cold front with its center in British Columbia will bring a chance of a minimal amount of precipitation.



NWS Weather Prediction Center 7 Day Precipitation Forecast valid Sunday afternoon through Tuesday afternoon (2/16/14 - 2/23/14)



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Weather Synopsis by Region

February 17, 2014

Central California and Southern San Joaquin Valley

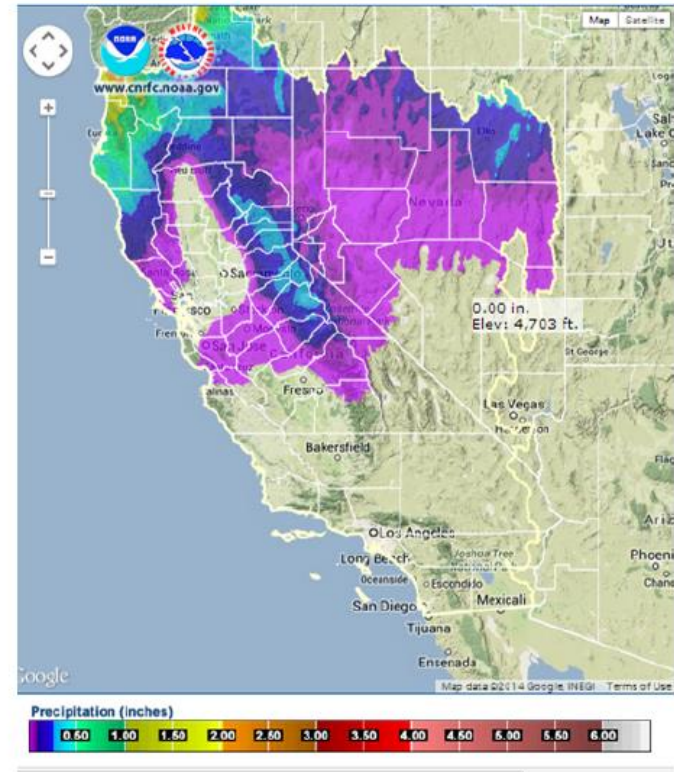
Sacramento Weather:

A colder but weak storm is possible mid-week, though confidence is low. A ridge of high pressure builds over the area for the end of the week with dry weather and above normal daytime temperatures.

Hanford Weather:

Dry and cooler conditions will prevail in the Central Valley except during Tuesday night and Wednesday. Another storm is forecast to bring a chance of precipitation mainly to the Yosemite area.

California Precipitation Graphic



NWS California-Nevada River Forecast Center 5 Day Precipitation Forecast valid Sunday (2/16/14) through Friday (2/21/14).



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Weather Synopsis by Region

February 17, 2014

Southern California

Los Angeles Weather:

It will be dry with generally near normal temperatures Monday through Thursday. A weak frontal system may bring an increase in clouds by mid-week, but rain is expected to remain north of the area. High pressure may bring some warming Friday and Saturday.

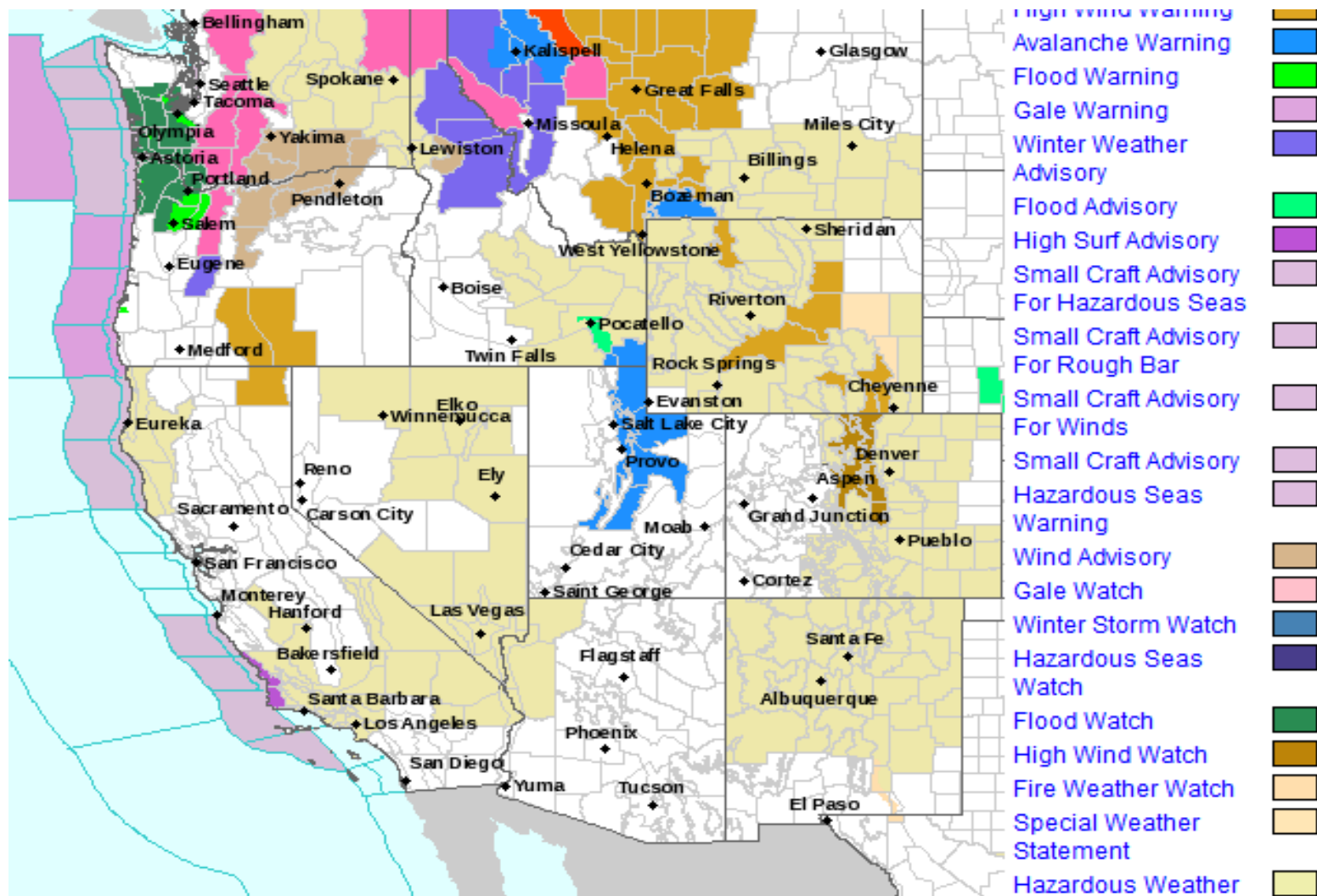
San Diego, Western Riverside, and Southwestern San Bernardino Weather:

Increasing onshore flow and deepening of the marine layer will bring cooling through Wednesday with areas of night and morning coastal low clouds and fog and gusty west winds in the mountains and deserts. The flow will become briefly offshore for Thursday with gusty northeast winds near the coastal foothills. For Friday through next weekend, high pressure will strengthen over the Eastern Pacific and move toward the West Coast bringing warmer and dry weather.

Southeast California Weather:

A persistent west to northwest flow aloft will remain over Southeastern California this week. A cold front will cross the region Wednesday and Wednesday night bringing gusty winds and pushing temperatures back closer to normal.

State Weather Map



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National 7-day Significant Fire Potential Outlook



Legend

Fuel Dryness

- Moist - Little or no risk for large fires.
- Dry - Low risk of large fires in the absence of a "High Risk" event.
- Very dry - Low/Moderate risk of large fires in the absence of a "High Risk" event.
- Data Unavailable.

High Risk Events

California - North Area 7 Day Significant Fire Potential

Predictive Service Area	Thu Feb 13	Fri Feb 14	Sat Feb 15	Sun Feb 16	Mon Feb 17	Tue Feb 18	Wed Feb 19	Thu Feb 20
NC01 - North Coast								
NC02 - Mid Coast								
NC03A - Bay Area-Marina								
NC03B - Diablo/Santa Cruz Mtns								
NC04 - Northwestern Mtns								
NC05 - Sacramento Valley								
NC06 - Northeast CA								
NC07 - Northern Sierra								
NC08 - East Side								

Weather

A series of wet weather systems will pass through the North Ops area over the 7-day period. Cool and humid conditions will continue, even during times between systems.

The first system is stalled over far NW CA. Through midday Saturday moderate to heavy rain will continue over Del Norte County, western Siskiyou County, and northern Humboldt County, with light rainfall farther across the remainder of far northern CA and into northern Mendocino County. Snow levels will remain above 6000 ft. This system will begin moving east and south later on Saturday as a cold front and upper level low pressure trough push through. SW-NW winds will be strong and gusty ahead of and near the front, especially east of the Cascade-Sierra crest late Saturday into very early Sunday. The rain and mountain snow (above 4500 ft) will end in eastern areas early on Sunday, leaving the area mostly sunny to partly cloudy.

The second system will move through late Monday and Tuesday and snow levels will drop to 2500 ft in the north and 4000 ft in southern areas. The third system will move through Thursday with similar snow levels.

In all, the total rainfall equivalent precipitation will be 10 inches or more in far NW CA, 1-4 inches in other mountainous areas, and 0.25-1 inch in low spots and east of the Cascade-Sierra crest, with the majority of the precipitation coming from the first system.

<http://gacc.nifc.gov/oncc/predictive/weather/7Day.pdf>







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Legend

Fuel Dryness

	Moist - Little or no risk for large fires.
	Dry - Low risk of large fires in the absence of a "High Risk" event.
	Very dry - Low/Moderate risk of large fires in the absence of a "High Risk" event.
	Data Unavailable.

California - South Area 7 Day Significant Fire Potential

Issued: Thursday, Feb 13, 2014

Predictive Service Area	Wed Feb 12	Thu Feb 13	Fri Feb 14	Sat Feb 15	Sun Feb 16	Mon Feb 17	Tue Feb 18	Wed Feb 19
SC01 - Eastern Sierra								
SC02 - Central Sierra								
SC03 - Southern Sierra								
SC04 - Sierra Foothills								
SC05 - Central Valley								
SC06 - Central Coast Interior								
SC07 - Central Coast								
SC08 - South Coast								
SC09 - Western Mountains								
SC10 - Eastern Mountains								
SC11 - Southern Mountains								
SC12 - Lower Deserts								
SC13 - Eastern Deserts								
SC14 - Central Mojave								
SC15 - Upper Deserts								
SC16 - Northern Deserts								

Weather

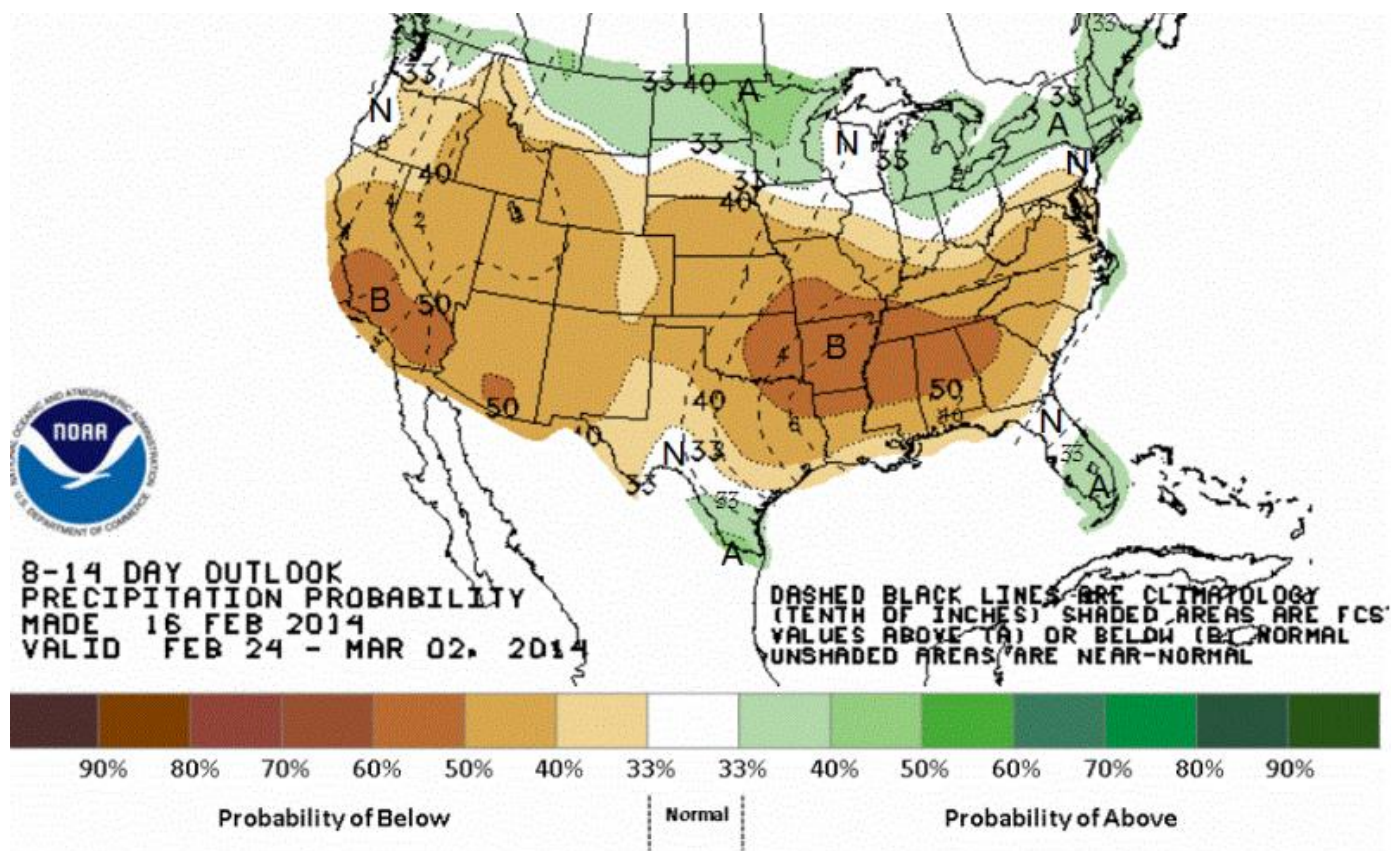
A strong ridge of high pressure will continue to bring near record high temperatures to Southern California today and Friday. Maximum temperatures will be up to 20 degrees above normal with many valley high temperatures reaching well into the 80s during the next two days. Plenty of high cloudiness will be present, especially over the central part of the state, but minimum RH will still fall into the teens this afternoon and again on Friday. This weekend and much of next week, strong westerly flow will develop over the central part of the state which will allow a few weak systems to quickly pass by. One system will produce scattered light showers in the Sierras north of Yosemite N.P. Saturday night and early Sunday. **Gusty west winds over 50 mph will be possible in the Sierras and in Mono County Saturday.** Elsewhere, onshore flow will develop this weekend which will lead to slightly cooler temperatures over Southern California. Another system may arrive Tuesday night into Wednesday, bringing gusty winds to the central part of the state along with light precipitation in the Sierras. No significant precipitation is expected across Southern California during the next 7-10 days.

<http://psgeodata.fs.fed.us/7day/action/forecast/8>



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8-14 Day Precipitation Probability Outlook for February 24 – March 2, 2014

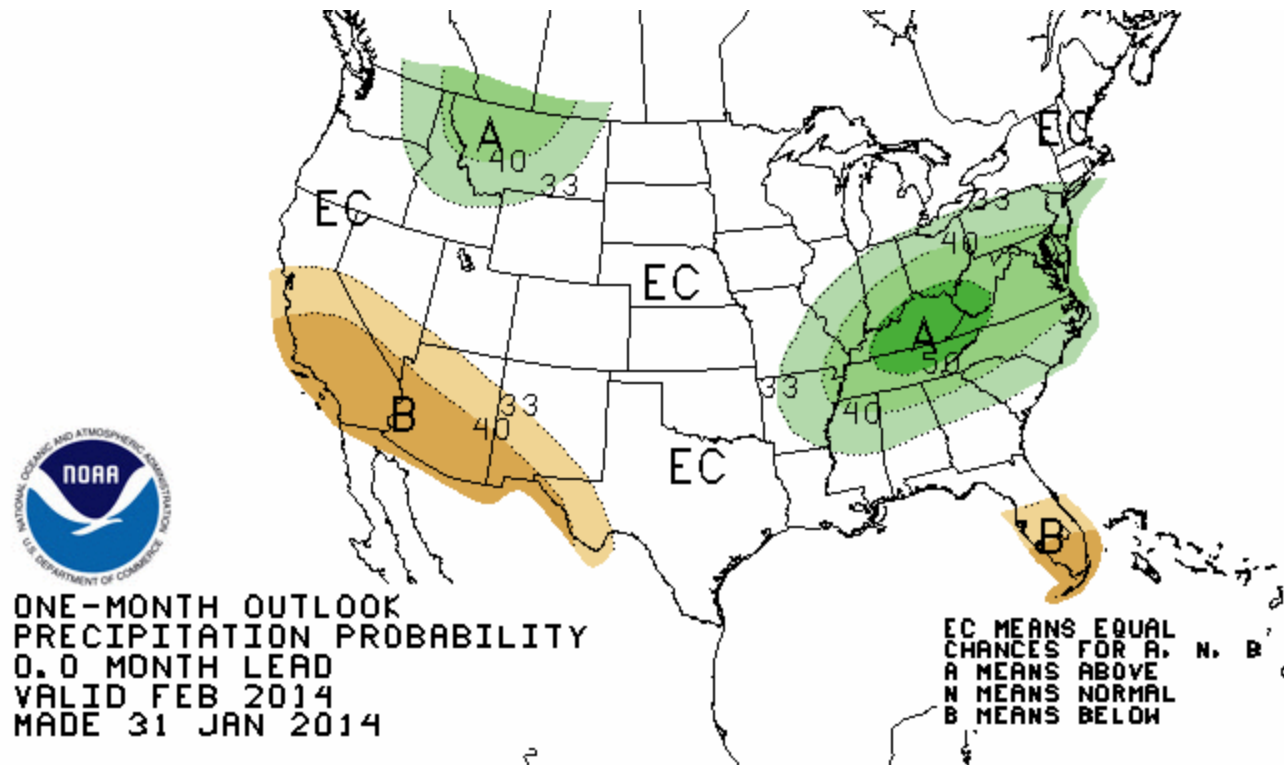


<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/814day/>



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February Precipitation Probability Outlook



There is a greater chance for normal to below normal precipitation over California for the month of February.

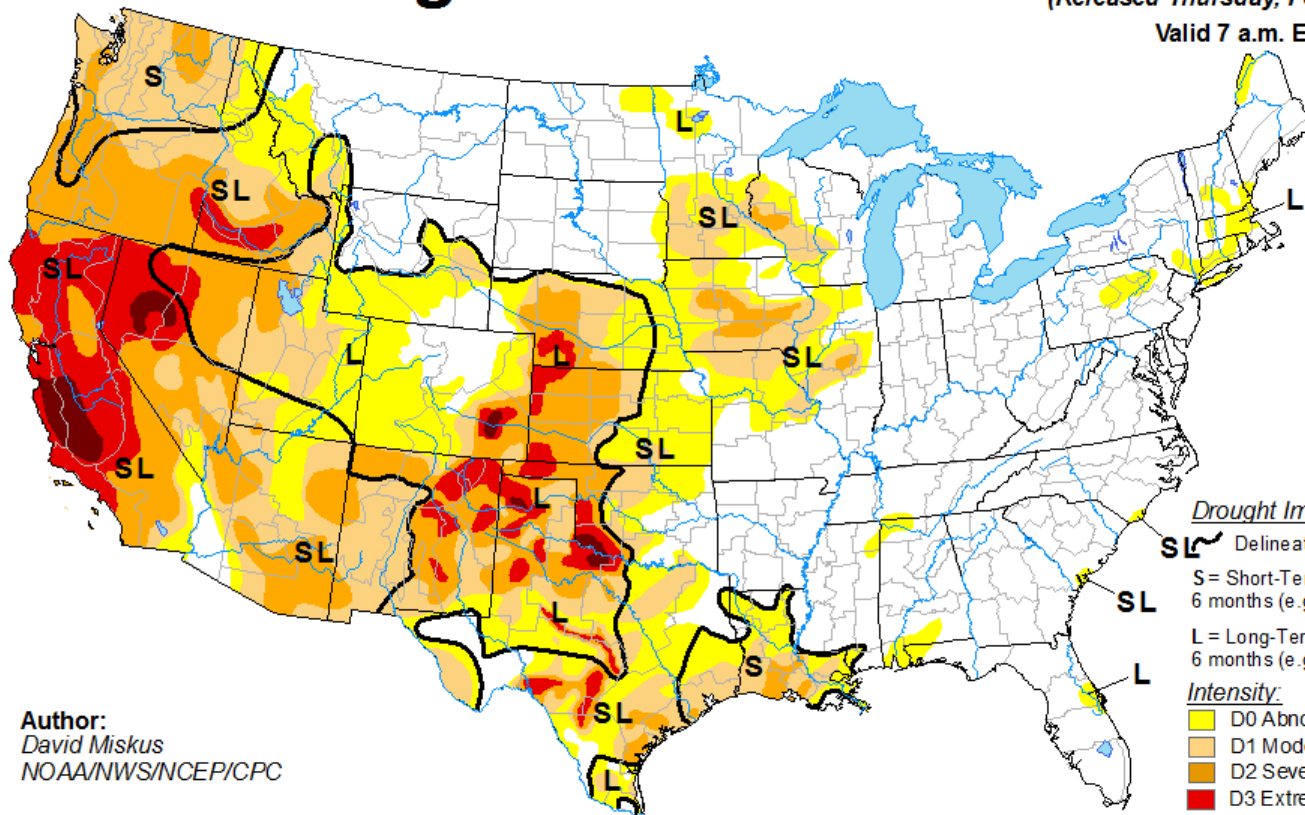
<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/30day/>



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U.S. Drought Monitor

February 11, 2014
(Released Thursday, Feb. 13, 2014)
Valid 7 a.m. EST



Author:
David Miskus
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

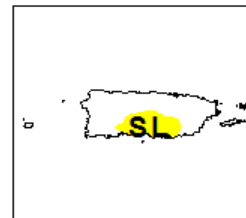
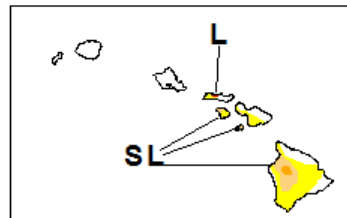
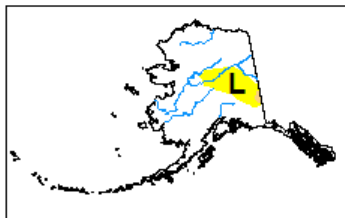
Drought Impact Types:

- SL** Delineates dominant impacts
S = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
L = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

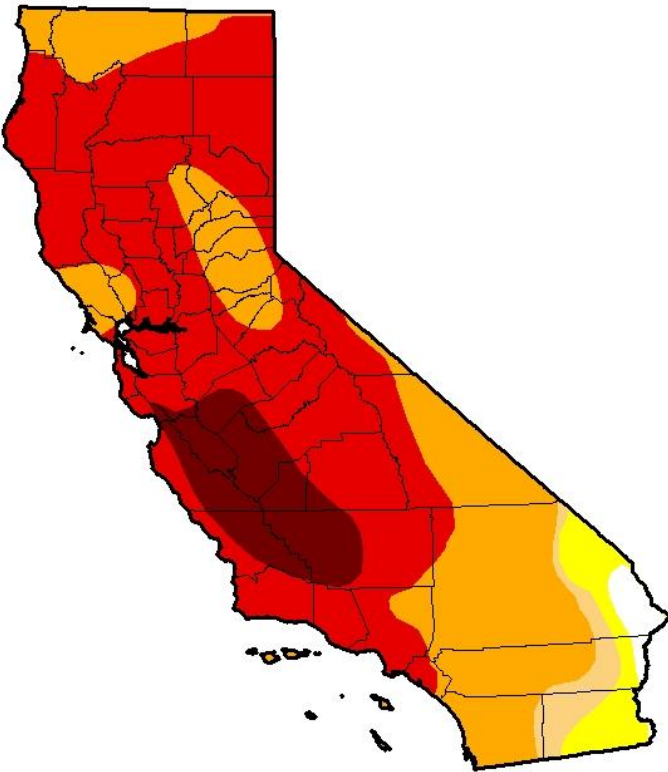
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>



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Weather Summary - Current Drought Conditions in California

U.S. Drought Monitor California



February 11, 2014

(Released Thursday, Feb. 13, 2014)

Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	1.43	98.57	94.54	91.59	60.94	9.81
Last Week 2/4/2014	1.43	98.57	94.18	89.91	67.13	9.81
3 Months Ago 11/12/2013	2.61	97.39	96.00	84.12	11.36	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 12/31/2013	2.61	97.39	94.25	87.53	27.59	0.00
Start of Water Year 10/1/2013	2.63	97.37	95.95	84.12	11.36	0.00
One Year Ago 2/12/2013	34.53	65.47	47.18	23.72	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate Drought	D4 Exceptional Drought
D2 Severe Drought	

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Author:
David Miskus
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

The D4 (Exceptional Drought) is the worst drought category on the Drought Monitor and **the first time it's been used in California since this monitoring system started in 2000.** The degradation was made due to historically low rainfall amounts so far this winter, long-term precipitation deficits stretching several years, and a growing number of increasingly significant drought impacts. **In addition, 61% of California is now covered by D3/D4 conditions.**

Note: Updated Weekly

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Home/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?CA>

<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/sto/droughtca.php>



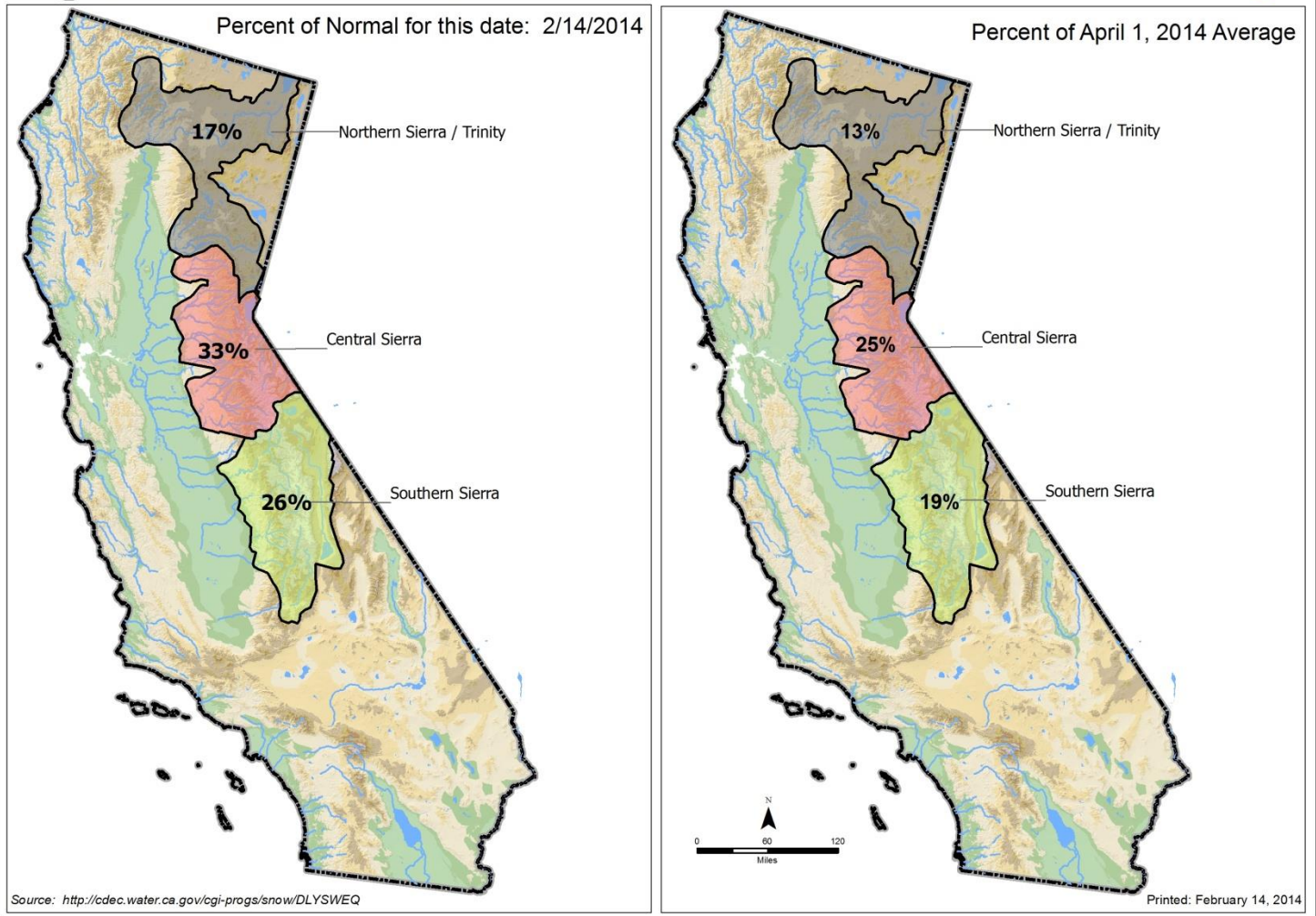
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2014 Drought

Statewide Summary of Snow Water Content

Current Regional Snowpack from Automated Snow Sensors



<http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cdecapp/snowapp/sweq.action>



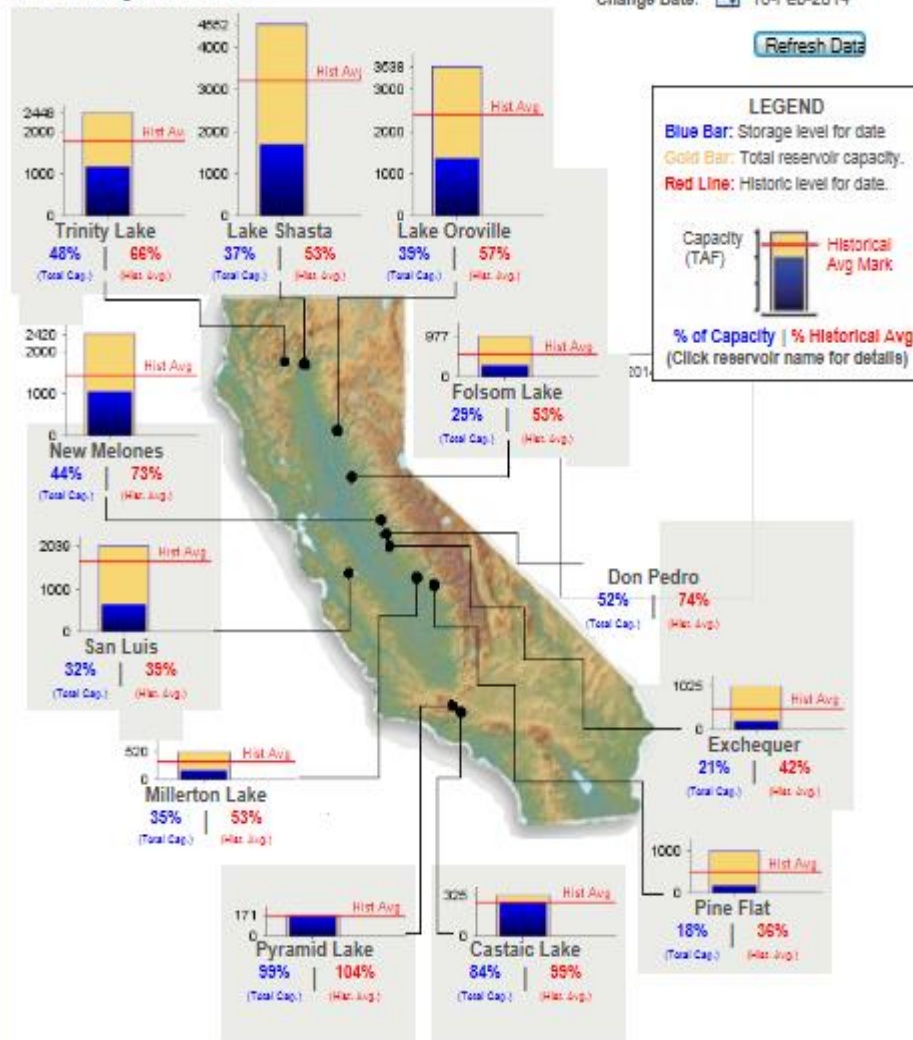
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CONDITIONS FOR MAJOR RESERVOIRS: 16-FEB-2014

Data as of Midnight: 16-Feb-2014

Change Date: 16-Feb-2014

[Refresh Data](#)



[Click for printable version of current data.](#)

Report Generated: 17-Feb-2014 9:10 AM

Reservoir Levels

Many parts of California -- including Sacramento and Los Angeles -- marked calendar year 2013 as the driest on record. These extremely dry conditions follow two previous dry years statewide.

Storage in the reservoirs that typically help California cope with dry weather are well below average for this time of year. The State's two largest reservoirs, Shasta and Oroville, are at approximately 55 percent of historical levels for the date.

River levels are low around the state. Along the North Coast, the Russian River, and the upper Sacramento River, levels are at their lowest points ever for this time of year.

Some water districts with a diversified portfolio of water sources and ample storage -- such as the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, which serves 19 million people -- are prepared to weather a third dry winter.

Farmers who depend heavily on the State's two biggest water projects, the Central Valley Project and State Water Project, face minimal and uncertain supplies.

<http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cdecapp/resapp/getResGraphsMain.action>



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Proclamations

State

1/17/14 Governor Edmund G. Brown proclaimed a State of Emergency

Counties

Glenn (1/22/14)

Inyo (1/29/14)

Kern (1/14/14)

Kings (1/14/14)

Madera (1/17/14)

Mendocino (1/7/14)

San Joaquin (1/28/14)

Santa Barbara (1/17/14)

Sutter (2/11/14)

Tulare (2/4/14)

Tuolumne (2/4/14)

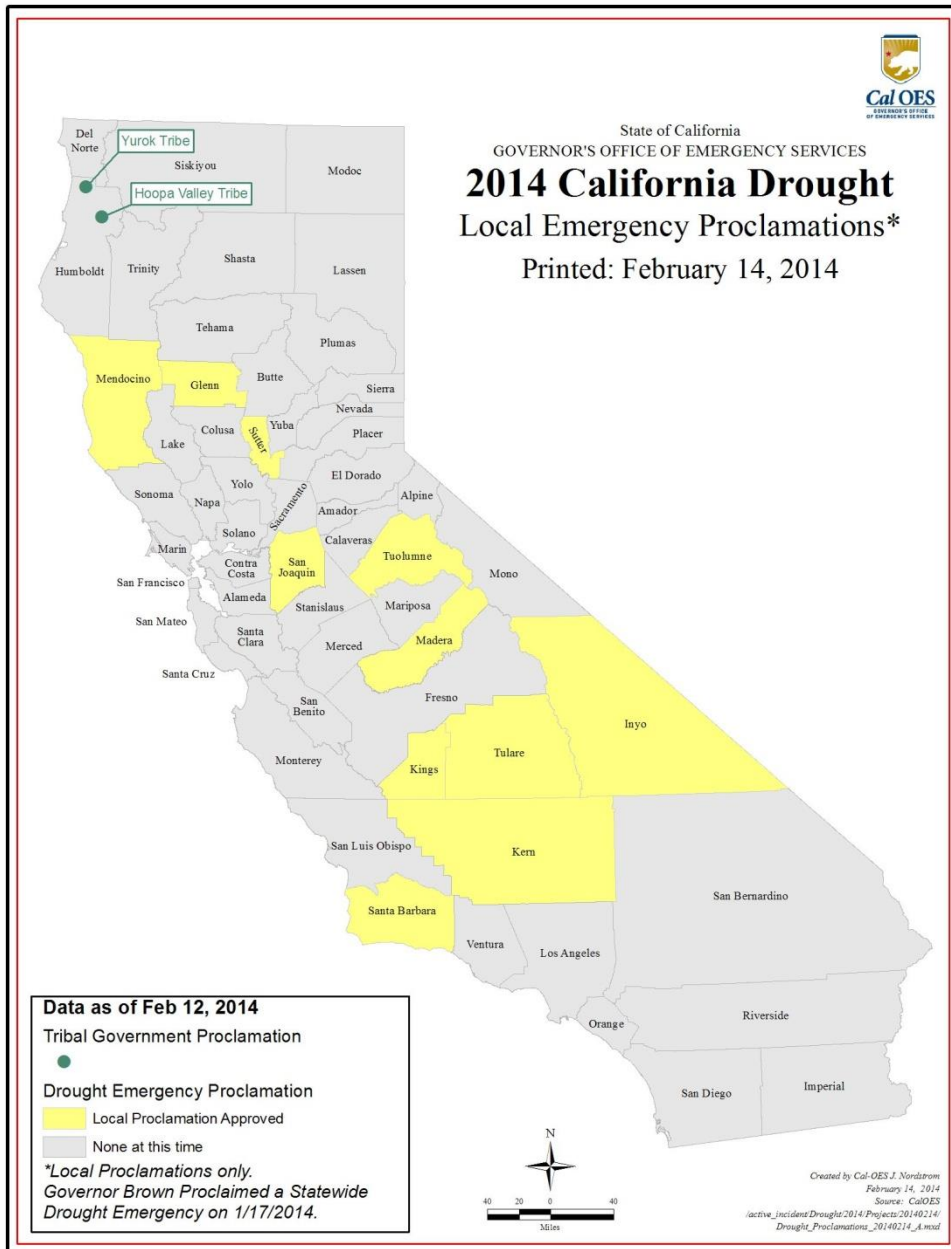
Tribal

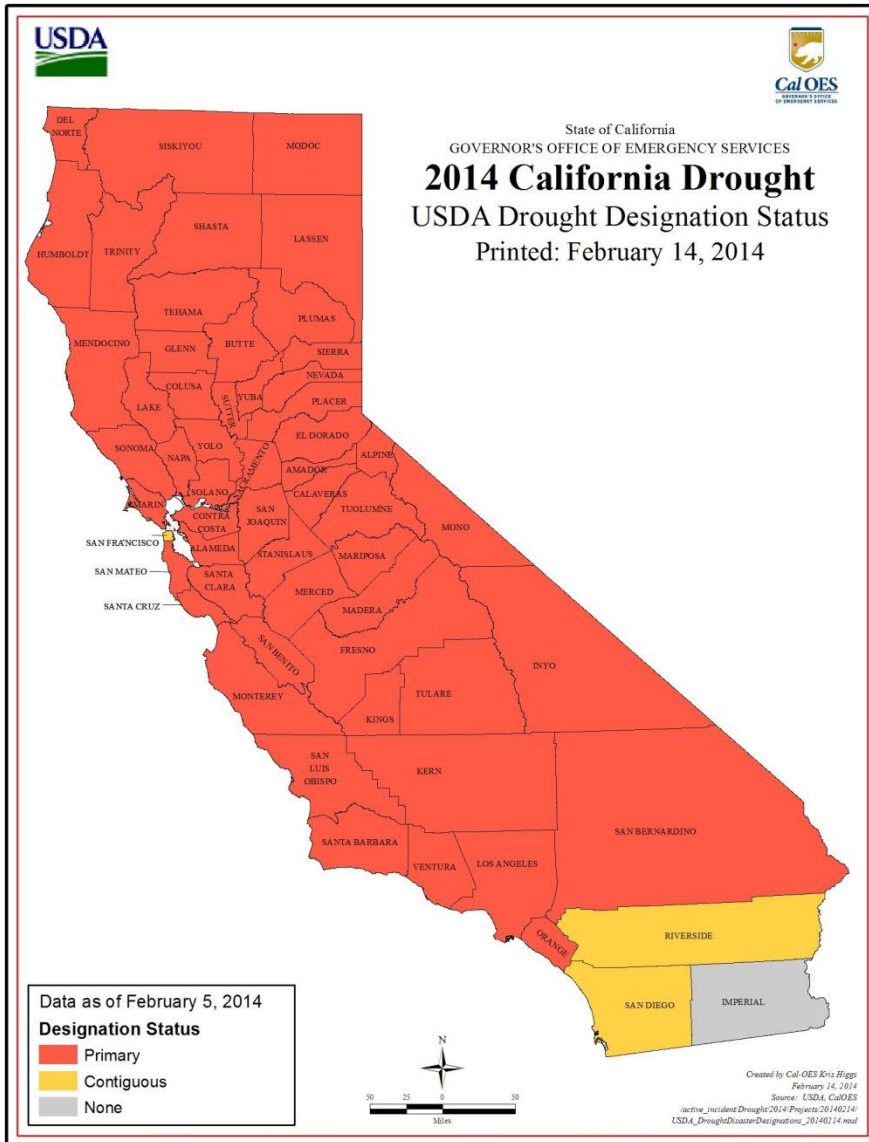
Hoopa Valley Reservation (1/20/14)

Yurok Reservation (1/29/14)

Federal

None





USDA Disaster Designation

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) issued a secretarial disaster designation identifying 53 counties in California as primary natural disaster areas due to drought and 4 contiguous counties. This means that the only county in California that has not received a primary or contiguous county designation for 2014 is Imperial.

USDA Disaster Designation – Individual Assistance

